



**Media Release - March 11, 2008**  
**New Apostolic Nuncio arrives in Australia**

The new Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, the Most Reverend Giuseppe Lazzarotto has arrived in Canberra after being welcomed to Australia by Church representatives during a brief stop-over in Sydney.

His Excellency arrived in Sydney on Tuesday, March 4 and was met at the airport by the Chargé d'Affaires of the Apostolic Nunciature, Msgr. Jude Thaddeus Okolo, by Brother Laurie Needham cfc, Executive Director of Catholic Religious Australia, and by Rev. Fr. Liem Duong of the Archdiocese of Sydney.

The Papal Representative also met the Members of the Permanent Committee of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC). The President of the ACBC, Archbishop Philip Wilson, warmly welcomed Archbishop Lazzarotto on behalf of the Australian Bishops, expressing best wishes for his mission in Australia.

Prior to meeting the Members of the Permanent Committee, Archbishop Lazzarotto paid a courtesy visit to Cardinal Edward Clancy. The same morning, he also met Cardinal Edward Cassidy, with whom he renewed old memories of their acquaintances.

He was also received by an eight-man delegation of the Bishops of the Oriental Rite in Australia, including the four Catholic Oriental Rite Bishops.

Archbishop Lazzarotto flew to Canberra on Wednesday and was met by the Deputy Chief of Protocol of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Mr. Colin Hill.

Shortly after, following customary diplomatic procedures, and in preparation for the presentation of his Credential Letters, Archbishop Lazzarotto met Ms Lyndall McLean, Chief of Protocol, and other DFAT Officials.

It is expected that in the next few days the Apostolic Nuncio will present his Letters of Credence to the Governor-General of Australia, Major General Michael Jeffery.

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